The Library, in its new fire-proof steel stack, has been open with great satisfaction and continuously throughout the year. But the entire satisfaction is short-lived, for the increased numbers of public documents that are coming to the Library make it evident that during the coming year already there will be lack of room for proper accommodation. The British patent collection also is growing so rapidly that it is impossible to give shelf-room to the last two shipments received. Moreover, the 35,500 and odd pamphlets, an extremely valuable part of the Library, still lie practically useless without shelving in the third story of the part of our building that is not fire-proof.

Two plans have been proposed for obtaining the additional accommodation so pressingly required, and as they are both so inexpensive, only needing an outlay of a few hundred dollars, your Committee strongly urges that both may be authorized. One of the two plans was urged in our last annual report, namely, the use of one of the two front rooms on the lower floor of the building. That room has now been vacated by the former tenant, and, even if it should be desired to use it for the Institute purposes, the walls would give place for a considerable number of volumes or pamphlets. The other plan is to add another story to the book stack itself, by cutting off the Seventh Street end of the present drawing school.

Proper accommodation for the invaluable collection of drawings and charts is still lacking, as reported last year.

The binding has been continued, and if the appropriation of the past year for the purpose can be renewed the coming year, and if, at the same time, the unexpended balance of last year's appropriation can also be used, very satisfactory progress can be accomplished.

The main addition of books has been, as in former years, from special gifts during the year, and next from the volumes of serials received in exchange for the *Journal*.

The older book funds, the Moore Fund, about \$750 a year, and the Memorial Library Fund, about \$50 a year, have supplied a smaller number of volumes than usual. The Mathew Carey Lea Fund, amounting to about \$150 a year, has now just begun to add its quota. The James T. Morris Fund has, by the liberality of Mr. John T. Morris, just been doubled, that is, increased to \$2,000, and is expected to yield about \$100 a year, and to begin to be usable at once.

The Library Committee has worked zealously and harmoniously, with well-attended, spirited meetings. Different branches of applied science are now represented on the Committee, but all have mutual consideration for the claims of the others, and aim at the filling out of a well-balanced library.

BENJ. SMITH LYMAN,
Chairman Library Committee.

PHILADELPHIA, January 8, 1900.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND
THE ARTS, 1899.

To the President and Members of the Franklin Institute.

GENTLEMEN:—The statistics of the operations of the Committee on Science and the Arts for the year 1899, herewith appended, present a highly

creditable record of the Committee's activity during the past year. Its comparison with the records for the year immediately preceding appears distinctly favorable and encouraging, as evidenced by the following general summaries :

Cases pending at the beginning of the year :

1898	32
1899	42

New cases from all sources :

1898	59
1899	56

Cases finished during the year :

1898	47
1899	63

Cases pending at the close of the year :

1898	44
1899	35

Thus, the number of cases pending was one-third greater at the beginning of the past year, and one-fifth less at its close than the corresponding statistics of the year before.

Again, the number of investigations completed was one-third greater for 1899 than for 1898.

The number of medals awarded, of all classes, presents a like aggregate, namely, ten, although the Elliott Cresson Medal was not conferred in a single instance during the year just closed.

In view of the numerous cases that are now being referred to this Committee by the Bureau of Awards of the National Export Exposition, it may confidently be expected, apart from other reasons, that the Committee is now entering upon one of the most fruitful years of its honorable existence.

In closing his connection with the Committee, in the relation of its presiding officer, the Chairman desires to express his appreciation of the courteous consideration extended to him at all times, and his personal thanks to the Secretary for his valuable and efficient aid, always cheerfully rendered.

EDGAR MARBURG,

Chairman Committee on Science and the Arts.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MEETINGS FOR THE YEAR 1899.

To the President and Members of the Franklin Institute.

GENTLEMEN :—The Committee on Meetings has held regular sessions as prescribed by the by-laws, and has arranged for the presentation of nineteen communications. Of these, a number have appeared in the *Journal*, and others have been deemed sufficiently interesting to warrant their reference to the Committee on Science and the Arts.

The attendance at the stated meetings during the past year has shown